

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

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TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

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S E C R E T STATE 200439

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: OPTION III DRAFT GUIDANCE

REF: NATO 4134

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1. MISSION MAY AT ITS DISCRETION PROPOSE REMOVAL OF

BRACKETS AT TWO FOLLOWING PLACES IN TEXT OF DRAFT GUIDANCE.

2. IN PARA 1, SENTENCE BEGINNING "THE UNITED STATES WOULD WITHDRAW...", WE CAN ACCEPT REMOVAL OF BRACKETS AROUND THE WORDS "TO THE US" AND, IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE, AROUND THE WORDS "TO THE USSR." ALTHOUGH OUR PREFERENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN TO KEEP THIS LANGUAGE OUT OF THE GUIDANCE SINCE IT IS ALREADY IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY UNDERSTANDING, WE WILL NOT OBJECT TO ITS INCLUSION HERE.

3. IN PARA 3, SENTENCE BEGINNING "THEY SHOULD EMPHASIZE..., WE CAN ACCEPT "OFFER" INSTEAD OF "TRADE" IN DEFERENCE TO MAJORITY ALLIED SENTIMENT ON THIS POINT. (FYI. SINCE ALL OTHER REFERENCES TO "THREATENING ELEMENTS" ARGUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM TEXT, THE SINGLE ALLUSION HERE NO LONGER HAS MUCH FORCE. END FYI).

4. WE LEAVE TO MISSION'S JUDGMENT HOW AND WHEN THESE CHANGES MIGHT BEST BE PUT FORWARD IN ORDER TO HELP REACH CONSENSUS ON OTHER BRACKETED PORTIONS OF TEXT. IN PROPOSING THEM, MISSION SHOULD EMPHASIZE OUR DESIRE TO BE FLEXIBLE AND MAKE COMPROMISES WHERE POSSIBLE IN INTERESTS OF MOVING ALLIED DISCUSSIONS FORWARD. (FYI. WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE FLEXIBILITY ON THESE TWO POINTS, SINCE REMAINING BRACKETED LANGUAGE INVOLVES ISSUES OF SUBSTANCE ON WHICH THE US IS STILL REVIEWING ITS POSITION.

5. AS SUGGESTED BY MISSION IN REFTTEL, WASHINGTON AGENCIES ARE PREPARING DRAFTS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND NEGOTIATING STRATEGY PAPERS DESIRED BY FRG. END FYI). ROBINSON

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NNN

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